

HAÏTI:
Copy of the Code Rural of that Island.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed, 25 May 1827.

(TRANSLATION.)
Rural Code of Haïti.

Port-au-Prince.

Printed at the Government Press, July 1826.

Liberty ! Equality !

Republic of Haïti.

RURAL CODE.

THE Chamber of Representatives of the Commons, upon the proposition of the President of Haïti, and having heard the Report from the Ministry of the Interior, has passed the Six Laws following ; which constitute the Rural Code of Haïti.

LAW N° 1.

General Enactments relative to Agriculture.

Law N° 1.
Agriculture.

Art. 1.—AGRICULTURE being the principal source of prosperity in a state, shall be specially protected and encouraged by the civil and military authorities.

Art. 2.—Citizens whose employment is agriculture shall not be taken from their labours, excepting in the cases provided for by the law.

Art. 3.—It being the duty of every citizen to aid in sustaining the state, either by his active services or by his industry, those who are not employed in the civil service, or called upon for the military service ; those who do not exercise a licensed profession ; those who are not employed in felling timber for exportation ; in fine, those who cannot justify their means of existence, shall cultivate the soil.

Art. 4.—Citizens whose employment is agriculture shall not be permitted to quit the country to inhabit the towns and villages, without a permission from the justice of peace of the commune they desire to quit, and of the commune in which they desire to establish themselves. The justice of peace shall give this permission *only* after having ascertained that the person asking it is of good morals, that his conduct has been regular in the canton he is about to quit, and that he possesses the means of existence in the town he desires to inhabit. All those who do not conform to these regulations shall be considered as vagabonds, and treated as such.

Art. 5.—Children of either sex, whom their parents, being attached to agriculture, may be desirous of sending into the towns or villages, either for their apprenticeship or their education, shall be received by contractors, or by public or private teachers, *only* upon a certificate from a justice of peace ; which certificate shall be granted upon the demand of the proprietor, or principal farmer of

Law N° 1.
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the place; of the officer commanding the rural police, or of the father or mother of the child.

Every infraction of these regulations shall be punishable by a fine of twenty-five dollars, payable by him who receives the child without a certificate.

Art. 6.—Military enlistments, which can only be made by order of the President of Haïti, shall never be made of citizens attached to agriculture, unless by express command of the chief of the state, alleging imminent danger.

Art. 7.—No wholesale or retail shop shall be established, no traffic in the productions of the soil shall be carried on *in the country*, under any pretence whatever. Raw sugars sold to refiners, sweets sold to distilleries, and cotton in seed sold to ginning-mills, are excepted from these regulations.

Art. 8.—Nevertheless, licensed hawkers dwelling in towns or villages may carry about the country, and sell provisions, foreign merchandize, and iron wares.

Art. 9.—Houses or huts already built in the country parts of communes, in places where no regular villages have heretofore existed, which are only an assemblage of huts built by individuals for their own residence, or to let to others, shall be subject to a tax upon their letting value, in the same manner as houses in towns and villages.

In future no hut shall be erected in the country, but in some recognized village; unless it be dependent upon some rural establishment.

Art. 10.—No proprietor bordering upon the sea shall be permitted to keep boats or craft, excepting such as are necessary for carrying his produce to the nearest town or village; and for these he shall take out a licence, to be delivered gratis by a justice of peace: these boats shall not, under any pretence, carry on the coasting trade between the neighbouring ports or islets, or be employed in fishing, excepting for the use of the plantation to which they belong.

Art. 11.—All fines and confiscations imposed by the Rural Code, not exceeding 100 dollars, shall be adjudged by a justice of peace; exceeding 100 dollars, by the civil tribunals. Half of all fines and confiscations shall belong to the treasury, and half to the informer.

Art. 12.—On the day of the Festival of Agriculture, groups of cultivators from each section shall present themselves at the place where the Council of Notables assembles, with samples of their labours. The Council of Notables, all the authorities being present, shall crown the cultivator (in each section for each species of cultivation) who shall be found to have cultivated his field in the best manner; he shall also receive a prize of encouragement. Accounts of these ceremonies shall be drawn up, and made public.

Art. 13.—On the 1st of September in each year the Council of Notables shall make to the President of Haïti a circumstantial report on the state of cultivation in each commune, accompanied by their observations upon what may tend to the improvement of cultivation.

Art. 14.—At the end of each year the commandants of districts shall report to the President of Haïti the condition of agriculture, and the state of the public roads in their respective districts.

Law N° 2.
Agricultural
Establishments.

LAW N° 2.

General Administration of Agricultural Establishments.

CHAP. I.

Regulations for the Administration of the Landed part of Agricultural Establishments.

Sect. 1.—Of Limits, Boundaries, and Establishments.

Art. 15.—All lands situated in the country which have been granted by the state to be holden as national or as individual property, which have not yet been surveyed, shall be surveyed within one year from the publication of this Code, under a penalty of one dollar for every three acres of land, to be paid by the proprietor.

To ensure the due execution of the above enactment, the justice of peace of the commune, upon a declaration being made to him after the expiration of the delay allowed,

allowed, shall call in a surveyor duly appointed, to survey and lay down plans of the grants not surveyed, at the expense of the grantee; the justice shall thereupon adjudge and levy the fine and expenses.

Art. 16.—From and after the date of the publication aforesaid, no sales of property situated in the country shall be made before a notary, unless the lands have previously been surveyed, or the boundaries be distinctly laid down in the title-deeds. In no case shall any partial sale take place, unless the ground has previously been surveyed. Notaries who neglect to observe these formalities shall be subject to the penalties imposed by law.

Art. 17.—Every grant of land dated before the publication of this Code which shall not be begun to be cultivated within one year from its publication, and every grant which may be made hereafter, and which shall not be begun to be cultivated within one year after the date of such grant, shall be re-united to the domains of the state; the title shall be withdrawn, and returned to the government.

Art. 18.—To carry into effect the provision of the preceding article, the officer commanding the rural police, in conjunction with the Council of Agriculture, shall make a report of the state of abandonment of the grant to the justice of peace, and to the military commandant of the commune, who, after having inquired into the correctness of the report, shall sign it, and address it to the commandant of the district, who, having duly verified it, shall withdraw the title, and send it to the government.

Art. 19.—An establishment for the cultivation of a grant of land shall be held to be commenced as soon as a garden shall be planted according to the rules established by law, the extent of which shall be proportioned to the number of labourers attached to the property.

Art. 20.—Proprietors of cultivated lands bordering upon each other, shall enclose their lands at their joint expense.

The proprietor who may refuse to do so shall be compelled by proceedings at law.

Art. 21.—Proprietors are bound, when their grants are surveyed, to cause proper landmarks to be erected, either in iron, in masonry, or in durable wood, under penalty of a fine of five dollars for each landmark which may be wanting.

Art. 22.—Proprietors who may have neglected to obey the preceding enactments shall, after having paid the fine, be compelled to pay the workman employed by the justice to erect the landmark.

Sect. 2.—Duties imposed upon Proprietors or Persons having the Management of Rural Properties.

Art. 23.—It is particularly forbidden to cut down woods upon the summits of hills, or within one hundred paces from their summits, at the head or in the neighbourhood of springs, or upon banks of streams. Proprietors of lands watered by springs or rivers, are bound to plant bananas, bamboos, and other trees capable of preserving moisture around the springs, and upon the banks of the rivers.

Art. 24.—Proprietors intending to burn wood-land, old canes, savannas, or other land, shall give twenty-four hours notice to the neighbouring proprietors, under pain of being otherwise responsible for all damages the fire may occasion.

Art. 25.—When a fire breaks out upon a property, the neighbouring proprietors and labourers shall attend and assist in extinguishing it.

Art. 26.—It is forbidden to light fires in the savannas, fields, or gardens of plantations, without express permission of the proprietors, managers, overseers, or drivers upon them.

Art. 27.—No cattle but those absolutely necessary for carrying on the cultivations, or for the personal use of the proprietors, overseers, drivers, farmers or labourers, shall be kept upon estates intended for cultivation, for manufactories, or for other establishments; and these shall be kept by day in herds, and by night in enclosed pastures or parks.

Art. 28.—Horses, mules, horned-cattle, swine, &c. intended for breeding, shall only be kept in pens established according to law N° 4. on pens.

Art. 29.—No proprietor, farmer, or overseer of a plantation, shall adopt a system contrary to that established by law.

Art. 30.—No union or association of labourers settled upon an estate, shall be permitted to farm the whole estate, to cultivate it themselves in partnership.

Art. 31.—The huts of labourers shall all be built upon the same spot, upon the plantation to which they are attached.

CHAP. II.

Of Cultivation in general.

Art. 32.—The first class of cultivation consists in plantations which yield produce for exportation, every kind of grain, and the provisions necessary for the subsistence of the people.

Art. 33.—Those who carry on this class of cultivation shall be subject to the territorial and land-taxes upon the gross amount only of the produce they raise fit for exportation.

Art. 34.—The second class of cultivation consists of kitchen and flower-gardens, fruit-trees, provisions and forage, when these are raised on estates not destined to raise produce of the first class.

Art. 35.—Those who carry on this class of cultivation shall be subject to the territorial and land-tax upon the estimated value of the weekly produce they raise.

Art. 36.—The proprietor of every plantation shall be compelled to cultivate provisions, corn, fruit-trees, such as the bread-fruit, &c. sufficient to provide for the people employed.

Art. 37.—Gardens, whether of produce, provisions or corn, shall be carefully cultivated; for which the proprietor, farmer or overseer shall be responsible under a penalty of from three to fifteen dollars.

Art. 38.—The labourers attached to any plantation labouring for one quarter of the produce, shall have assigned to them for their personal use a garden for provisions, which they shall cultivate during their hours and days of rest.

Art. 39.—To effect the preceding article, proprietors, farmers or overseers, shall place at the disposal of the labourers sufficient ground for their gardens.

Art. 40.—The dykes, ponds and canals, which supply the water required by the inhabitants for irrigation, or for any other purpose, shall be kept in repair by the parties interested, who shall contribute to the labour necessary for their repair. No one shall be permitted to evade this work, nor to appropriate the water belonging to his neighbour without his consent. Persons guilty of infractions shall be liable to a fine of not less than ten dollars, nor more than fifty dollars; and shall, moreover, repair at their own charges the canal they may have obstructed or destroyed.

Art. 41.—When the produce is about to be put into sacks, bales, casks or packages, upon a rural property, the officer commanding the rural police of the section shall have the right of inspecting the produce, to ascertain that it is not adulterated; and should it be so, he shall stop the delivery, and report it to the justice of the peace of the commune. Should the produce be badly manufactured only, he shall stop its removal, and compel the proprietor to clean it.

Art. 42.—The justice, upon receiving the report, shall name skilful persons to examine the produce, and should the adulteration be proved, the produce shall be confiscated to the states.

Art. 43.—Produce fit for exportation shall not be removed from the plantations to towns or villages, and sent into circulation, but with a permit from the proprietor, when resident, or from the officer commanding the rural police, when the proprietor is not resident. The permit shall be delivered gratis, upon unstamped paper, by the officer commanding the police, who shall enregister it.

Art 44.—All produce removed in contravention of the preceding article shall be stopped on the road, and taken before the justice of peace of the commune, who shall inquire whether the produce have not been stolen, for the purpose of restoring it to the owner, and pursuing the supposed guilty person. Where the owner of the produce shall have neglected to furnish the permit, he shall be subject to a fine of not less than three dollars.

LAW N° 3.

Law N° 3.
Contracts and
Obligations.

Upon the mutual Contracts to be entered into between
Proprietors, or Chief Farmers, and Agriculturists,
Cultivators, or Labourers, and their reciprocal
Obligations.

CHAP. I.

General Enactments.

Art. 45.—All persons not in active employment of the state, as soldiers, workmen and others, and whose business it is to cultivate the soil, or to fell timber for exportation, shall, for the security of their common interests, enter into a mutual engagement with the proprietor or chief farmer of the plantation or wood upon which they are destined to exercise their industry. The engagement with the labourers may be made either collectively or individually.

Art. 46.—No engagement for the second class of cultivation, or for manufactures, shall be for a shorter period than two years, nor for more than nine years: for all other species of cultivation, for less than three years, nor more than nine years; and for felling timber for exportation, for less than six months, nor more than one year.

Art. 47.—The contract shall be made upon stamped paper before a notary, who shall keep a minute of it: it must express distinctly all the conditions agreed upon by the contracting parties, who may insert any stipulations they please, provided such stipulations be not in opposition to the enactments of this Code.

Art. 48.—Any proprietor, farmer or overseer of a plantation, who shall receive or employ upon the plantation any cultivators or labourers, without having made with them the contract required by articles 47 and 49, shall be condemned for the first offence to a fine of ten dollars for each person so employed; and in case of a repetition of the offence, to double the amount; and moreover, shall be deprived of any remedy against the labourers for default of their verbal engagements. This enactment extends to labourers employed in felling timber for exportation.

Art. 49.—Any contract entered into with a labourer whose preceding contract shall not have expired, shall be absolutely void; and the labourer who shall have made such second contract shall be re-conducted, at his own expense, to the plantation where he had previously engaged himself, and shall be subject to the fine imposed by article 48.

Art. 50.—Head-men of parties working for one half of the produce, shall share in equal portions with the principal proprietor of the plantation, all fruits, provisions, vegetables, grain and produce which they may raise upon the land cultivated by halves.

Art. 51.—When sugar plantations are worked by halves, the proprietor shall, before the division takes place, deduct one-fifth of the gross produce for the use of the works, utensils, stock, &c. employed, or for the expenses of repairs; and in other cases the amount of the plantation expenses shall be deducted before the division.

Art. 52.—Labourers working for one quarter of the revenue raised by themselves, shall divide one clear quarter of the gross produce they may raise: they shall likewise enjoy the whole of the fruits raised in their individual gardens, cultivated by themselves during their hours and days of rest.

Art. 53.—When the seasons require that the works upon great sugar manufactories, coffee, cotton and indigo estates, shall be pushed with activity, the different parties upon the same plantation who work for half-produce shall assist each other in their labours, affording to each other an equal number of days assistance; these mutual aids shall be regulated by the manager of the estate.

Art. 54.—When the produce or crop has been manufactured or gathered in, whether it be made or gathered by parties working for half or quarter produce, it shall not be removed from the estate until after a division has been made between the proprietor or head farmer and the labourers working at half or quarter produce.

Art. 55.—Upon sugar estates, the division shall be made after the working of each patch of canes: upon estates cultivated in corn or provisions, woods felled for fire-wood, charcoal, cabinet-making, or building, in forage, and other irregular productions,

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ductions, the division shall be made every six months; and upon all other estates, such as plantations of coffee, cotton, cocoa, indigo, &c. the division shall take place after the crops.

Art. 56.—When the time for dividing the proceeds of the produce belonging to the labourers arrives, the officer commanding the rural police of the section shall be called in by the proprietor, head farmer or overseer, to witness the division. The accounts of the produce manufactured or crops gathered in, and a certificate of the price current, shall be produced, together with a certificate from the purchaser of the produce enumerated in article 55. A list of all persons entitled to share shall be made out, and the respective profits shall be allotted.

Art. 57.—Each individual entitled to share, shall be inscribed upon the list in one of three classes, according to his strength and activity, and the time he has worked.

The monies to be shared shall be divided into quarter shares, half shares, and shares. The drivers and headmen shall be entitled to three shares each.

Sugar-boilers, and chief carter, and other headmen, two shares each.

Good working men and women of the first class, a share and half each.

Those of the second class, a share each.

Those of the third class, three quarters of a share each.

Children from twelve to sixteen years of age, and elderly people, half a share each.

Children from nine to twelve, and weak infirm people, a quarter share each.

Any monies remaining over and above the shares paid to each person shall be divided among those who have shown the most steadiness and activity in their labour.

Art. 58.—Tickets, certifying the days they have been present, shall be given to day-labourers.

These day-tickets shall be withdrawn once in each week, and weekly tickets substituted for them. Account shall be taken of these weekly tickets at the time of the divisions of produce or crop.

Art. 59.—In no case shall the officer commanding the rural police deduct from the amount to be divided any thing for himself.

He shall draw up a written account of these divisions, and shall send it, with the necessary vouchers, to the Council of Notables, as a document of reference in case of necessity.

Art. 60.—Proprietors, farmers and overseers, are forbidden to give permission to any labourer to travel in the commune, or to absent himself from his domicile and work, for more than eight days; the permit shall be on unstamped paper, delivered gratis, and signed by the officer commanding the rural police. When the parties require a longer leave of absence, the proprietor, farmer or overseer, shall refer them to the commandant of the commune.

CHAP. II.

Of the Duties of Proprietors, Farmers or Overseers, towards the Labourers.

Art. 61.—Proprietors, farmers or overseers, shall employ the labourers with whom they have contracted in agricultural labour, or labour relating to agriculture only. They shall treat their labourers as parents would their children.

Art. 62.—Proprietors or head farmers shall supply, at their own expense, labourers working at quarter-produce, with tools and farming implements; these tools shall only be replaced when proved to have been worn out or broken in the service of the proprietor.

The labourer who loses the tools supplied to him, shall replace them himself; if he do not he shall receive others, the price of which shall be deducted from his share of the produce.

Art. 63.—The proprietor or head farmer shall supply the labourers working at quarter-produce with the means of conveying their share of the produce to the place of sale free of expense; the labourers working at half-produce shall convey their share at their own expense.

Art. 64.—When the proprietor or chief farmer undertakes to dispose of the portion of the produce applicable to labourers working at quarter-produce, or belonging to those at half-produce, he shall be bound to prove, in the most legal manner, the price-current of the produce at the time of sale, and to produce at the

the time of the division of the proceeds a certificate from the purchaser, as well as the price-current, duly attested.

Art. 65.—When the portion of produce belonging to the labourers is sold by the drivers or jobbers, these shall likewise be bound to produce the price-current at the time of sale, duly attested, and a certificate from the purchaser; for the purpose of proving that the sharers have received their fair and just rights.

Art. 66.—The proprietor or head farmer shall in no case deduct any thing from the share of produce due to the labourers for the payment of the salaries of overseers. These salaries shall always be paid by the proprietor or head farmer.

Art. 67.—Proprietors or farmers shall be required, under penalty of not less than five dollars, nor more than fifteen dollars, to engage with a medical man for attendance upon the labourers, and to supply medicines when any are to be procured in the commune: these medicines shall be supplied gratis to labourers working at quarter produce; they shall be paid for at the cost price by all others.

Art. 68.—Proprietors and principal farmers of rural properties shall take care that infant children are properly taken care of; one or more nurses shall be appointed for this purpose: the expenses attending this shall be borne by the labourers.

CHAP. III.

Of the Duties of Labourers towards Proprietors, Farmers or Overseers.

Art. 69.—Labourers shall be submissive and respectful to the proprietors and farmers with whom they have contracted, as well as the overseers.

Art. 70.—Labourers shall perform with zeal and exactitude whatever agricultural labours may be required of them by the proprietors, farmers or overseers with whom they have contracted.

Art. 71.—Labourers, under whatever name, or upon whatever condition they may have bound themselves, shall dedicate the whole of their time to such labour, and shall not quit it upon any pretence whatever; they shall not absent themselves from their houses at any time, but from Saturday morning until Monday before sunrise, without permission from the proprietor, farmer or overseer; on all other days of labour they shall be required to have a permit from the proprietor, head farmer or overseer, if they are not to go beyond the bounds of their commune; for all other purposes the permit must be countersigned by the officer commanding the rural police of the section, and by the commandant of the place.

Art. 72.—Labourers working at quarter-produce, or those entitled to half-produce, shall be bound to prepare, and to put into condition for delivery, the part of the produce appertaining to the proprietor or farmer, and to convey it to the place of delivery; the means of transport being provided by the proprietor or farmer.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Sub-contracts between Agriculturists at Half-produce and the Labourers employed by them.

Art. 73.—Sub-farmers and head-men of bands upon plantations shall have the power of sub-contracting with labourers; but they shall be answerable to the proprietor or head farmer for the conduct of the persons they engage.

Art. 74.—The number of sub-contractors shall never exceed ten for each sub-farmer or head-man.

CHAP V.

Rules respecting Persons in the service of the Republic residing and working upon Plantations.

Art. 75.—Soldiers in active service, and other persons employed by the state, shall be permitted to engage themselves to proprietors, farmers, head-men of bands working at half-produce, or sub-farmers, for agricultural labour, either at quarter or half-produce, or as sub-farmers; they shall be liable to all the engagements which they may contract, so far as the same may be compatible with their public duties.

Art. 76.

Art. 76.—When soldiers or other persons in the employ of the state, who have taken up their abode upon a plantation, shall have entered into no engagement with the proprietor or farmer of the plantation, they may make a verbal or written contract with him to labour by the week, by the month, or by the piece, upon whatever terms and conditions they please; but these soldiers shall be obliged to join, without remuneration, in all labours necessary for repairing the water-courses, wells and cisterns upon the estate, the hedges and enclosures of gardens and meadows, and in maintaining order upon the plantation.

Art. 77.—When soldiers or other persons in the employ of the state shall not comport themselves towards the owners or farmers of the estate upon which they dwell according to articles 75 and 76 of this law, they may be sent off the property.

Art. 78.—Soldiers or others in the service of the state, who engage themselves to proprietors or farmers to labour for wages by the week or otherwise, shall respect and obey the owners, farmers and overseers of the estate to whom they have engaged themselves.

Art. 79.—When soldiers or others employed in the service of the state, are required by the proprietor, farmer or overseer, to work by the day, the week, the job or otherwise, in a field cultivated by labourers working at quarter-produce, or to assist in gathering in its produce, or the manufacture of it, their wages shall be deducted from the gross amount of the proceeds of such labour, before the quarter belonging to the other labourers is separated.

Art. 80.—When labourers, such as those mentioned in the preceding article, are called upon by head-men of bands entitled to half the produce to aid them in their labours, their wages shall be paid out of the moiety of the produce coming to such labourers, before the division of it takes place.

If these labourers quit the work they have contracted to do, of their own free will, before the end of the week, they shall be entitled to no remuneration for the time they may have laboured during the beginning of the week.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Mode of deciding all Disputes between Proprietors, Farmers, Overseers, and Cultivators at Half-produce, Sub-farmers, &c.

Art. 81.—When disagreements arise between proprietors, agriculturists, farmers, overseers, and cultivators at half-produce, or sub-farmers, the parties shall in the first instance carry their complaints before the officer commanding the rural police of the section, who, being assisted, if necessary, by the Council of Agriculture of the district, shall endeavour to bring about a compromise between the parties, in all matters falling within his jurisdiction.

Art. 82.—When the matter in dispute cannot be settled by the officer commanding the rural police, assisted by the Council of Agriculture, he shall require the parties to name arbitrators within the section to regulate and terminate their differences.

Art. 83.—When the matter in dispute cannot be decided by arbitration on the spot, or where the parties have neglected to name arbitrators, the officer commanding the rural police shall wait until Saturday or Sunday, to refer the parties to the justice of peace of the commune: the delay must not exceed six days.

Art. 84.—The justice of peace is bound to decide the matter in dispute; and shall not allege the silence of the law on the matter in dispute as a ground for refusing to give judgment, under penalty of a denial of justice.

Art. 85.—The justice of peace shall give judgment within twenty-four hours after the appearance of the parties.

LAW N° 4.

Upon Cattle-Pens.

CHAP. I.

Establishment of Cattle-Pens, and the Management of them.

Art. 86.—Cattle-pens shall only be established at places at the least one league distant from plantations.

Art. 87.—Hereafter no one shall establish a pen for horned cattle who has not at least 150 acres of pasture land; and for hogs 75 acres.

Art. 88.—The number of keepers shall not in any case exceed five men, including the head-keeper, with their wives and children.

Art. 89.—When a keeper finds among the herds intrusted to him, or in the meadows belonging to the pen in which he is employed, stray cattle, he shall forthwith give notice thereof to the neighbouring keepers, and if the cattle do not belong to their pens, he shall send notice to the officer commanding the rural police of the section.

Art. 90.—When the cattle mentioned in the preceding article have remained three months in a pen unclaimed, they shall be conducted by the pen-keeper to the justice of peace of the commune, to be placed among the strays.

Art. 91.—When any animal in a pen shall be found to be attacked by any contagious disease, it shall be instantly separated from the other cattle, and taken care of until its recovery or death, under penalty of a fine not less than ten, nor more than twenty dollars, to be paid by the pen-keeper.

Art. 92.—Every animal which dies in a pen of a contagious or epizootic disease, shall be burnt or buried.

Art. 93.—It is strictly forbidden, under penalty of a fine of not less than ten, nor more than twenty dollars, to burn the savannas or meadows of pens without the permission of the officer commanding the rural police.

Art. 94.—When cattle upon plantations die from ordinary disease or accident in the absence of the proprietor or farmer, the head-keeper shall procure a certificate of the death of the animal from the officer commanding the rural police, or from the neighbours: and the skin, having the stamp or brand, shall be produced to the proprietor; in default of which, the pen-keeper shall replace the animal.

Art. 95.—Animals belonging to pens, as well as those used for cultivation upon plantations, shall be stamped with brand-marks only: it is strictly forbidden to make any marks upon them by the hand.

CHAP. II.

Of the Engagements to be entered into between the Proprietors or Farmers of Cattle-Pens, and those attached to them.

Art. 96.—Proprietors or farmers of cattle-pens shall not receive or employ at their pens any keepers, or other persons, who have not previously bound themselves, as directed by article 47, or Law 3.

Art. 97.—The duties reciprocally imposed upon proprietors and farmers and those who labour, shall also extend to proprietors or farmers of cattle-pens and those employed by them, so far as the same relate to order and general police.

Art. 98.—Keepers of cattle-pens shall not be permitted to receive at their master's pen any cattle or beasts without permission of the proprietor or farmer of the pen.

Art. 99.—The pen-keeper shall not remove or sell any animal belonging to the pen, unless he produce the permission of the proprietor or farmer in writing, and a permit upon stamped paper from the officer commanding the rural police of the section; who shall register the permit, and the brand of the animal.

Law N° 4.
Cattle-pens.

Law N° 5.

Upon the keeping
and damage done
by Animals.

LAW N° 5.

Upon the custody and keeping of Animals, and upon the damage which they may do in the Fields.

Art. 100.—Cattle belonging to labourers shall be kept in herds, along with those of the proprietor, and the keepers shall be paid their salaries, half by the proprietor and half by the labourer.

Art. 101.—It is forbidden to kill or maim beasts of burden, or horned cattle, found trespassing upon cultivated land, or in gardens.

Art. 102.—It is likewise forbidden to kill or maim sheep found trespassing in fenced gardens or enclosures.

Art. 103.—Pigs and goats found trespassing in fenced gardens or enclosures may be killed.

Art. 104.—The animals enumerated in articles 101 and 102, which may be found in cultivated gardens, shall be conducted, twenty-four hours afterwards, before a justice of the peace, to be sent to the pound, unless within that time the owner of them withdraw them from the pen belonging to the plantation upon which they may be found.

Art. 105.—The officer commanding the rural police shall, within twenty-four hours after complaint made by the parties injured, draw up in writing a statement of the damage done by the animals, and send it to the justice of peace, unless compensation be voluntarily made to the owner of the garden.

Art. 106.—The officer of rural police shall take care that he send the written statement to the justice of peace duly certified, that the said justice may be able to decide according to law.

Art. 107.—The keepers who may have suffered the animals mentioned in article 27 to escape, shall pay the expenses attending their recapture, according to the tariff established by law.

Art. 108.—Proprietors, farmers, or overseers upon plantations, are expressly forbidden to work, or use in any manner, the animals found in their garden, during the time they may remain in their pens before they are sent to the pound; any infringement of this article shall be punished by a fine of not less than five, nor more than fifteen dollars.

Art. 109.—The capture of the animals enumerated in articles 101 and 102, taken in gardens and conducted to the pound, shall be paid for as follows: For each horse or mule, one dollar; for each ass, seventy-five cents; for each head of horned cattle, one dollar and a half; and for each sheep, twenty-five cents: one half to belong to the person taking them, and one half to the guards.

Art. 110.—When animals taken in gardens are withdrawn from the pen before they are sent to the pound, the owner shall pay half the above fines to the person who takes them only.

Art. 111.—When an animal taken in a garden and sent to the pen happens to die by accident or otherwise, during the short time it remains there, or while it is being conducted to the residence of the justice of peace belonging to the commune, the officer commanding the police shall call for witnesses to prove the cause of the death of the animal.

Art. 112.—When the death of the animal shall prove to have been occasioned by negligence, want of food, or violence, the proprietor, farmer, or overseer of the plantation, shall pay for it according to its value, to be estimated by arbitrators named by the justice. The amount thus paid shall be remitted to the administration of the district, to be paid to the owner of the animal, should he appear, or to be paid into the treasury. In all cases the damage done by the animal shall be paid for out of this money.

Art. 113.—When animals taken in gardens by virtue of article 104, are conducted to the justice of peace of the commune, to be sent to the pound, if the owner consent to pay for the damage done and the expenses of capture before the beast be sent to the pound, the justice of peace shall consent.

Art. 114.—Persons conducting herds of cattle from one commune to another, whether for sale or for agricultural purposes, shall provide themselves with a permit, setting forth the kind and number of the animals they are conducting, their description, and brands.

Art. 115.

Art. 115.—These permits shall be delivered by the commandants of communes, or countersigned by them, upon permits given by the owners, or upon certificates furnished by the officer commanding the rural police of the sections from whence the animals came. These permits must be registered by those who give them, and countersigned by the commandants of the communes through which the herds may pass.

Law N° 5.

Upon the keeping
and damage done
by Animals.

Art. 116.—The drivers of herds who may be met by the police or gen-d'armerie shall, upon demand, show their permits; and if the number of beasts or their description shall not be found to agree with the particulars stated in the permit, and if any cause of suspicion should exist, the drivers may be taken up and conducted to the nearest post, with the animals in their possession, to be taken before the justice of peace of the commune.

Art. 117.—If the parties taken before the justice cannot prove their right of property in those animals not included in the permit, and are unable to give good and sufficient security for their re-appearance with such proof within the time to be allowed them, not exceeding fifteen days, they shall be committed to prison, and the animals sent to the pound.

Art. 118.—Within one month from the day of the arrest the justice shall write to the justice of the commune from which the party committed may come, or to the officer commanding the rural police of the section to which he belongs (if he belong to the same commune), to make inquiries about the person committed and the animals stopped: upon receipt of this information, it shall be forwarded to the public minister, together with a written statement from the justice, of the grounds of ulterior proceedings against the party detained, should sufficient cause appear for such proceedings.

LAW N° 6.

Law N° 6

Rural Police.

Rural Police.

FIRST HEAD.

GENERAL ENACTMENTS.

Art. 119.—Rural police embraces every thing that concerns the administration and prosperity of rural properties.

Art. 120.—Rural police shall be carried into effect under the inspection of commandants of districts and commandants of communes; by officers commanding the rural police, to be stationed in sections of each commune, by guards, by gen-d'armerie, and, in cases of necessity, by detachments of troops of the line.

Art. 121.—Justices of peace have also authority to exercise rural police in the cases provided by the law.

Art. 122.—The Council of Notables and the Councils of Agriculture assist the authorities, in cases of necessity, to secure perfect superintendence and inspection by the agricultural police.

SECOND HEAD.

OF THE INSPECTION.

CHAP. I.

Of the supreme Inspection of Commanders of Districts.

Art. 123.—The commandant of each military district, having the general inspection of the cultivation of the district entrusted to him, unites in his own person all the authority necessary for enforcing agriculture; (*pour la mise en activité de la culture*): he is responsible,

- 1st. For the decay of agriculture in his district:
- 2dly. For the due execution of all or part of the Code of Agriculture within his district:
- 3dly. For the neglect of commandants of communes under his command to inspect and superintend agriculture within their respective communes, when he has not prevented such neglect.

Art. 124.

Law N° 6.
Rural Police.

Art. 124.—The commandant of each district shall inspect once in each year each rural section in the several communes composing his district, and inform himself personally of the due execution of the laws, and of the progress and state of labour, and make a detailed report of these matters to the President of Haïti.

Art. 125.—The yearly report, which the commandant of each district is required to make to the President of Haïti, shall state the number of plantations kept up in each section, the nature of their produce, an account of their improvement or falling off, and, lastly, the state of the public and private roads.

CHAP. II.

Of the Inspection of Commandants of Places and Communes.

Art. 126.—The commandant of the place or commune has the chief inspection of the cultivation of the commune: if he have within his command cantons or parishes erected into military posts, the commandants of such posts have the inspection of the cultivation of the territory under their command.

Art. 127.—The commandant of the commune is responsible for the deterioration of the cultivation of the commune within his command, when it arises from negligence in any part of the service.

Art. 128.—The commandant of the place or commune shall go the round of the different sections within his command three times in every year.

Art. 129.—The commandant of the commune in his rounds shall visit the fields, provision-grounds, enclosures, and new plantations. He shall examine into all the details set forth in the Rural Code. He shall inquire whether the officer commanding the rural police has duly performed all the duties imposed upon him by law. He shall repress all negligences and irregularities, and shall draw up a report of the whole in the form prescribed for each section; a copy of which shall be forwarded to the commandant of the district.

CHAP. III.

Of Rural Sections, Officers commanding the Rural Police, Guards and Overseers, and Drivers upon Plantations.

Sect. 1.—Of Rural Sections.

Art. 130.—The communes shall, by an ordinance for that purpose to be made by the President of Haïti for each district, be divided into agricultural sections, of about four leagues extent in the plains, and according to the nature of the ground in the mountains.

Art. 131.—Each section shall be named, and its limits and boundaries fixed.

Art. 132.—As soon as the sections are formed, the commandant of the commune, assisted by the Council of Notables, and one of the private surveyors, shall draw up, upon schedules prepared by the justice of peace, triple rolls of all plantations situated in each section, with the names of the proprietors, the extent of each property, and the kind of tillage carried on upon each plantation. One of these rolls shall be deposited in the office of the commandant of the commune, one with the Council of Notables, and the third in the hands of the officer commanding the rural police of the section.

Art. 133.—The Council of Notables shall furnish the justice of peace of the commune with an examined copy of the schedule deposited in their office. The commandant of the commune shall furnish the commandant of the district with a similar copy of the schedule deposited in his office. The commandant of the district, after having collected all the rolls of plantations of all the sections of each commune forming his district, shall draw up a schedule of the whole, a copy of which he shall forward to the President of Haïti.

Art. 134.—The officer commanding the rural police shall give notice to the commandant of the commune, of each transfer of a rural property situated within the section, and of each change in the mode of cultivation adopted. The commandant of the commune shall note such transfer or change of cultivation upon the roll deposited in his office, and shall give notice of the same to the commandant of the district, who shall likewise note the same upon the roll in his hands, and inform the government of it.

Art. 135.

Art. 135.—The Council of Agriculture of the section shall give the notice mentioned in the preceding article to the Council of Notables of the commune; and the Council of Notables, after having noted it, shall inform the justice of peace, who shall cause the same to be inscribed upon the copy of the roll deposited in his office.

Art. 136.—Every year, between the 1st and 15th of February, the officers commanding the rural police of each section, shall receive from the agents for taxes of their commune, a certain number of stamped schedules of population in blank; which they shall furnish to the proprietor, farmer, or overseer of each plantation of the section, before the end of the same month; receiving from them the value of the stamp, which the officer shall pay over to the agent for taxes. This stamp duty shall be as follows: The stamped schedule of population for an estate containing thirty acres of land, shall be twelve cents and a half; for thirty-three to sixty acres, *twenty-five cents*; for sixty-three acres and upwards, *fifty cents*.

Art. 137.—The proprietors, farmers, or overseers of plantations, shall return the schedule of population, filled up in the manner pointed out, to the officer commanding the rural police, at the latest on the 20th of March following, under penalty of a fine of not less than fifteen, nor more than fifty dollars.

Art. 138.—The officer commanding the rural police of each section shall, on the 5th of April at the latest, return all the schedules of population of his section, or the names of the defaulters, to the Council of Notables of each commune, under penalty of the fine imposed by the preceding article.

Art. 139.—On the first of May in every year, the Council of Notables of each commune shall forward to government the original schedules of population which they may have received in virtue of the preceding article.

Section 2.—Of the Officers Commanding the Rural Police, and of the Guards.

Art. 140.—A military officer of subaltern rank, (from sub-lieutenant to captain), to be named by the President of Haïti, shall be stationed in each rural section: this officer shall be charged with the superintendence of the section, and with its police.

Art. 141.—The officers commanding the rural police of the different sections shall be independent of each other, and shall report only to the commandant of the commune and the commandant of the district under whose orders they are placed; they shall also correspond with the civil authorities, and attend to their requisitions.

Art. 142.—The dwelling or station of the officer commanding the rural police shall be in the centre of his section, upon the public road which traverses it.

Art. 143.—The officer commanding the rural police is particularly bound to push agriculture to the utmost extent within the section confided to him, and to cause the laws to be observed, and property to be respected. He is responsible in the whole extent of his section.

1st. For the due execution of the Rural Code in what is of his competence, as well as of all other acts of the government relative to agriculture, and to rural police:

2d. For every neglect of superintendence and manual labour upon the plantations of the section:

3d. For all vagrancies, disorders and disobedience to the police, within his section, when he has not prevented them, or reported them to superior authority.

He shall make oath before the commandant of the district before entering upon the duties of his office.

Art. 144.—The officer commanding the rural police shall have under his command at some fixed station three guards, one of whom shall be of the rank of quarter-master, and perform the duties of secretary, one of the rank of serjeant, and the third a private dragoon. These guards shall be sworn; the oath shall be taken in the presence of the commandant of the district.

Art. 145.—The officer commanding the rural police shall make the round of his section, and visit each plantation once in the week.

Art. 146.—The officer commanding the rural police shall hold himself in readiness to attend to the requisitions of proprietors, managers or overseers, by day and by night, and to send guards to them, to enforce obedience to the law, and maintain order.

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Art. 147.—One of the guards shall repeat every week upon each plantation of the section the visit of the officer, so that each plantation shall be visited at the least twice in every week.

Art. 148.—When an officer or his guards in their ordinary rounds arrive upon any plantation, they shall call first for the proprietor, or, in his absence, for the chief farmer or manager, and shall inquire if every thing has been orderly: after this formality, they shall inspect the labourers personally, to satisfy themselves that these are properly conducted; they shall ascertain that all the labourers are present and at work; and they shall inquire into the cause of the absence of any of them, and shall act therein according to law.

Art. 149.—When an officer commanding the rural police of a section is prevented, by any lawful excuse, from making the round and visit directed by articles 145 and 146, he shall give notice thereof to the commandant of the commune, who shall appoint an officer of gen-d'armerie, or of the troops of the line quartered in the commune, to do the duty for him while the impediment lasts.

Art. 150.—Any officer commanding the rural police who, without lawful excuse, shall neglect to make the rounds and visits directed by the articles 145 and 146, shall suffer a punishment, to be inflicted by the commandant of the commune; and, in case of repetition of the omission, he shall be reported to the commandant of the district, who shall report him to the President of Haïti.

Art. 151.—Every Sunday morning the officer commanding the rural police shall present himself in person, or send one of his guards, with a written report to the commandant of the commune, to inform him of whatever remarkable circumstances may have occurred in his section.

Art. 152.—The officer commanding the rural police, and the guards, shall receive their pay and allowances, according to their respective ranks, at the same time when the troops of the line in active service are paid.

Art. 153.—The state shall supply the guards with arms, accoutrements, and uniforms, in the same manner as to the troops of the line.

Art. 154.—The uniform of officers commanding the rural police shall be a green coat with flaps and lappels turned back, red collar and cuffs, red facings, white lining, plated buttons, with a cornucopia surmounted by the cap of liberty, and the words "Republique d'Haïti" engraved upon them, and a cocked hat.

They shall also bear the epaulettes and fringes of their respective ranks, wear white waiscoats and pantaloons and boots.

The uniform of the guards shall be a jacket of cloth of the same colour and make as their officers, with the distinctive marks of their rank in silver or white worsted lace, and plated helmets: their arms shall be the dragoon sabre, carbine, and cartouche-box; they shall wear a red belt from right to left, with the words "*force à la loi*" inscribed upon it in blue letters.

Sect. 3.—Of Overseers and Drivers (*conducteurs*) upon Plantations.

Art. 155.—Upon every plantation where the proprietor is not resident, and where there is no principal resident farmer, there shall be a manager or overseer, to be appointed by the proprietor or farmer.

Art. 156.—The proprietor or farmer, after having selected the manager or overseer who suits him, shall enter into a mutual contract or agreement with him, in the presence of a notary, upon such terms and conditions as the parties may agree upon. The proprietor or farmer shall afterwards make the manager or overseer known to the officer commanding the rural police of the section.

Art. 157.—Every proprietor or principal farmer of a rural property not resident on his property or cultivated farm, upon which the number of labourers shall exceed ten persons, and who shall not have appointed a manager or overseer, shall be subject to a fine of not less than ten, nor more than fifty dollars, according to the extent of the property: when the number of labourers does not exceed ten persons, the management may be entrusted to a driver.

Art. 158.—The duties of the manager or overseer are to superintend, for the interest of the proprietor who employs him, the labours carried on upon the plantation entrusted to him.

Art. 159.—The managers or overseers upon plantations are answerable to the proprietors or chief farmers for every neglect or abandonment of labour where they are employed: they shall be prosecuted by the parties injured.

Art. 160.—The manager or overseer shall be respected by the labourers upon the estate where he is employed.

Art. 161.

Art. 161.—Upon estates where the fields or gardens are parcelled out among associations working at half-produce, or among sub-farmers or jobbers, each head-man of association, and each sub-farmer or jobber becomes the driver of his gang or of his association; he is answerable for their labour.

Art. 162.—The duties of the drivers are to cause the work to be done by the gangs entrusted to them, under the directions of the proprietor, farmer, manager, or overseer.

Art. 163.—The drivers are answerable for every neglect of work, for every absence without leave of the labourers, and for every misconduct, excess or idleness committed by the labourers, when they have not reported the same to the proper authorities,

Art. 164.—The drivers shall be remunerated from the proceeds of the produce raised by the gangs which they direct, according to Art. 57 of Law N° 3.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Council of Agriculture in the Rural Sections.

Art. 165.—On the first of May in every year, being the Festival of Agriculture, the commandant of each commune, assisted by the justice of peace and the Council of Notables, shall select from each section three of the most respectable citizens, being proprietors, farmers, managers or overseers, to form the Council of Agriculture of the section.

Art. 166.—The appointment of the members of the Council of Agriculture shall be immediately made known by the commandant of the commune to the commandant of the district, who shall communicate it to the Government.

Art. 167.—The members of the Council of Agriculture are elected for the space of one year only; but they may be re-elected each year, in consideration of the zeal with which they may have discharged their duties in the preceding year.

Art. 168.—The Councils of Agriculture being composed of inhabitants cultivating the soil, and interested in the preservation of order in rural economy, each of the members is bound, when he can do so without essentially neglecting his own labour, to inquire into all that passes in the section to which he belongs, in order to report the same to the Council of Notables.

Art. 169.—The duties of the Councils of Agriculture are,

1. To see that the provisions of the laws relating to tillage are not curtailed in their execution:

2. To endeavour by new experiments, and by the maintenance of concord among all those interested in tillage, to increase progressively its results:

3. To report to the Council of Notables, and to the military authorities, every abuse or neglect which may occur in the section in which they dwell.

Art. 170.—The members of the Council of Agriculture correspond, individually or collectively, with the functionaries or authorities with whom it is their duty to communicate.

Art. 171.—The appointment of a member of the Council of Agriculture is honorary.

THIRD HEAD.

OF RURAL POLICE.

Art. 172.—The rural police is to be specially maintained by officers appointed to command each rural section of the commune, assisted by guards.

Art. 173.—The objects of the rural police are,

1st. The repression of vagrancy:

2d. The enforcing of order and assiduity in field-labour:

3d. The discipline of the gangs of labourers:

4th. The making and keeping in repair of public and private roads.

CHAP. I.

The repression of Vagrancy.

Art. 174.—All persons who are not proprietors, or renters of the land on which they are residing, or who shall not have made a contract to work with some proprietor or principal renter, shall be looked upon as vagrants, and shall be arrested by

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Rural Police.

by the rural police of the section in which they may be found, and carried before the justice of peace of the commune.

Art. 175.—The justice of peace, after interrogating and hearing the person brought before him, shall make known to him the articles of the law, which oblige him to employ himself in agricultural labour: and, after that communication, shall remand him to prison, until he shall have bound himself by a contract, according to the provisions of the law.

Art. 176.—The justice of peace shall take care that the person arrested contracts to labour with a proprietor, a principal renter, or occupier, or with a chief of the Agricultural Society, at his own choice.

Art. 177.—If after eight days of detention the prisoner shall not have taken measures to bind himself to field labour, he shall be sent to the public works, for cleaning the town or district where he may be arrested, and shall be there employed until he shall consent to bind himself to field labour. Any person who removes any labourer from the public works to employ him in private work, shall be subject to a fine of fifty dollars, of which a moiety is to be paid to the prisoner complaining.

Art. 178.—If the prisoner be a child under age, the justice of peace shall inquire out his parents, and send him to them, to follow their condition of life.

Art. 179.—After the expiration of three months from the publication of this Code, rigorous measures shall be enforced against delinquents.

Art. 180.—Every person attached to the country as a cultivator, who shall on a working day, and during the hours of labour, be found unemployed or lounging on the public roads, shall be considered idle, and be arrested and taken before the justice of peace, who shall commit him to prison for twenty-four hours for the first offence; and shall, upon a repetition of the offence, send him to labour on the public works.

Art. 181.—The officers of the rural police shall take care that vagabonds and idlers do not conceal themselves under the uniforms of soldiers of the different corps: when they discover, in the sections under their superintendence, men whom they do not personally know to be in active service in the corps whose uniforms they wear, they shall arrest them, and send them before the military commandant of the commune, that inquiry may be made if the individual arrested really belongs to the corps whose uniform he wears. If the party prove not to be a soldier, he shall be committed to prison, according to article 175, until he enter into a contract to labour in agriculture.

Art. 182.—The officers of the rural police shall take care that in their respective sections no person shall live in idleness: for this purpose they have authority to oblige such persons as are not actually employed in labour to give an account of their occupations; and such persons as cannot prove that they cultivate the soil, or are keepers of cattle-pens, shall be considered as without visible means of procuring their livelihood, and shall be arrested as vagabonds.

CHAP. II.

Of the insuring of Order and Assiduity in Field Labour.

Art. 183.—Field labour shall commence on Monday morning and continue until Friday evening (legal holidays excepted); and in extraordinary cases, when the interests of the cultivator or of the proprietor require it, work shall be continued until Saturday evening.

Art. 184.—On working days the ordinary field labour shall commence at day-break, to continue until mid-day, with the interval of half an hour for breakfast, which shall be taken on the spot where the work is carrying on; after mid-day the field labour shall commence at two o'clock and continue until sun-set.

Art. 185.—Pregnant females shall be employed on light work only; and after the fourth month of pregnancy they shall not be obliged to work in the field.

Art. 186.—Four months after their delivery they shall be obliged to resume labour in the field; but they shall not commence work until one hour after sun-rise: they shall continue to work until eleven o'clock, and from two o'clock until one hour before sun-set.

Art. 187.—No labourer attached to an estate in the country shall absent himself

from the labour assigned to him without the permission of the overseer, in the absence of the proprietor or farmer; and he shall not give that permission unless the case be urgent.

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CHAP. III.

Of the Discipline of the Gangs of Labourers.

Art. 188.—Gangs of labourers upon estates shall be obedient to their drivers, jobbers, sub-farmers, farmers, proprietors and managers or overseers, whenever they are called upon to execute the labour they have bound themselves to perform.

Art. 189.—Every act of disobedience or insult on the part of a workman, commanded to do any work to which he is subjected, shall be punished by imprisonment, according to the exigency of the case, at the discretion of the justice of peace of the commune.

Art. 190.—Saturdays and Sundays and holidays being at the disposal of the labourers, they shall not on working days abandon their work, to indulge in dancing or feasting, either by day or by night. Such delinquents shall be subject to imprisonment for three days for the first offence, and for six days, in case of a repetition of the offence.

CHAP. IV.

On the Making and keeping in Repair of the Public and Private Roads.

Art. 191.—The public roads shall be kept up and repaired by the cultivators (*agriculteurs*) in rotation, of the whole section through which the roads pass, whenever their state of deterioration may require repair. The private roads shall also be repaired by such of the cultivators of the establishments of the section as are in the habit of using the said roads.

Art. 192.—Whenever a public or private road requires repair, the officer of rural police shall give notice of it to the commandant of the commune.

Art. 193.—If the repairs required be local, or of trivial importance, the commandant of the commune shall order them to be done. But if the work require many hands, in order to be promptly executed, he shall give notice thereof to the commandant of the district. The Council of Agriculture shall inform the Council of Notables of the work to be done.

Art. 194.—The number of labourers required for any particular work upon the roads, shall be taken from the plantation rolls ordered by article 132, in numbers proportioned to the labouring population of each plantation, all of whom are bound to assist in the work.

Art. 195.—Those proprietors who have not four labourers attached to their estate, shall in no case be called upon to furnish more than one labourer for repairs upon the roads.

Art. 196.—Every labourer ordered to work on the roads who shall absent himself from that work, shall pay a fine of six quarter dollars a week, or suffer imprisonment for one week; which fine or imprisonment shall not exempt him from working the week following.

Art. 197.—Any proprietor, farmer or overseer of a plantation who, having received a requisition for labourers, shall neglect to furnish them, shall be liable to a fine of three dollars per week for each labourer short of the number; half the fine to be paid to the treasury of fines, and half to be employed in hiring other labourers.

Art. 198.—Labourers called out for repairing the roads shall bring with them the agricultural instruments and tools used on the plantation, in default of which the officer commanding the rural police shall give them tools, to be supplied by the administration; and upon a report of the same being made to a justice of peace for the commune, he shall adjudge the proprietor of the plantation to which the defaulters may belong, or his representative, to reimburse the administration in double the value of the tools so furnished.

Art. 199.—When means of transport are required for the repair of public or private roads, such estates as possess wains or carts shall send them; in default of wains or carts, cattle for draught shall be supplied.

Art. 200.—Eight beasts of burden supplied shall be equal to one cart and team.

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Rural Police.

Art. 201.—No person shall for his private interests take from the repair of the roads those who are sent to work upon them, under a penalty of fifty dollars for each labourer so withdrawn, if even for one day only. The director of the work shall call over the names of the labourers every morning to ascertain their presence.

Art. 202.—Labourers ordered to work on the public roads shall present themselves early on Monday morning, and shall not absent themselves, unless the work be finished, until Friday evening.

Passed in the Chamber of Commons at Port-au-Prince, the 21st of April 1826, Twenty-third year of Independence.

Muzaine,
President.

Pre. Junca and Ardouin,
Secretaries.

THE Senate decrees the adoption of the Rural Code of Haïti, and orders it to be sent within twenty-four hours to the President of Haïti, to be confirmed and carried into execution, in the manner directed by the Constitution.

At the National House at Port-au-Prince, this 4th day of May 1826, Twenty-third year of Independence.

P. Rouanez.
President of the Senate.

Gayoh and F. Dubreuil,
Secretaries.

In the Name of the Republic,

The President of Haïti orders that the above laws, constituting the Rural Code of Haïti, be sealed with the seal of the Republic, and be published and executed.

From the National Palace at Port-au-Prince, this 6th day of May 1826, Twenty-third year of Independence,

BOYER,
By the President.

B. Inginac,
Secretary General.

